

What is claimed is:

1. A method for identifying users in a digital camera including an image photographing unit photographing an image of an object, an image processing unit performing a predetermined image processing to a photographed image input from the image photographing unit and outputting the processed image, a data storing unit temporarily storing the image output from the image processing unit, and a recording medium inserted in a recording medium interface and storing the digital image data, in which multiple users use the digital camera, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) after the digital camera is turned on according to a command by a user, receiving user identification information;

(b) determining whether matched user identification information exists by comparing the input identification information and the user identification information stored in the digital camera;

(c) if it is determined that the matched user identification information exists, a setting of the digital camera corresponding to the matched user identification information is loaded;

(d) moving an image storing location to an existing folder used by the identified user;

(e) the user performing work using the digital camera; and

(f) storing a setting state of the camera as information intrinsic to the user according to a turn-off command by the user.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein Step (d) comprises the sub-steps of:

(d1) after Step (c), determining whether an existing folder used by the identified user exists;

(d2) if it is determined that the existing folder used by the identified user exists, moving to the existing folder; and

(d3) otherwise, creating a new folder for the user.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising Step (g) of, if it is determined in Step (b) that the input identification information does not match the stored user information, determining whether the frequency of input of the user identification information exceeds a predetermined number and, if it is determined that the frequency does not exceed the predetermined number, moving to Step (a).

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising steps of:

(h) if it is determined in Step (b) that the input identification information does not match the stored user information, loading a setting of the digital camera as a basic setting; and

(i) creating a new user folder.

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5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a step of setting read protection with respect to an image file stored in the user folder, or to be stored therein, and the user folder, is provided after Step (e).

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6. A digital camera including an image photographing unit photographing an image of an object, an image processing unit performing a predetermined image processing to a photographed image input from the image photographing unit and outputting the processed image, and a data storing unit temporarily storing the image output from the image processing unit, which adopts a method for identifying users in the digital camera by obtaining user identification information and comparing the obtained user identification information with user information stored in the digital camera when multiple users use the digital camera, the digital camera comprising

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a manipulation unit obtaining and outputting the user identification

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information by being manipulated by the user;

a display unit displaying a message requesting input of the user identification information, the user identification information input through the manipulation unit, and a setting state of the digital camera;

a non-volatile storing unit storing the user information and setting information intrinsic to the user with respect to the digital camera and outputting the stored user information and the setting information;

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a recording medium inserted in a recording medium interface provided in the digital camera and storing the digital image data; and

a control unit comparing the user information stored in the non-volatile storing unit and the input user identification information and setting the digital camera according to the setting information stored in the non-volatile storing unit.

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7. The digital camera as claimed in claim 6, further comprising a read protection setting unit setting read protection with respect to an image file photographed by the user and input to the non-volatile storing unit or to be input thereto.

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